

Message Text

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ACTION SCS-05

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UNCLAS MEXICO 15356

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CARR, MX

SUBJECT: COM REJECTS POSSIBILITY OF EARLY RELEASE FOR
AMCIT OFFENDERS SENTENCED FOR POSSESSION OF SMALL
QUANTITIES OF DRUGS

1. SUMMARY. DURING VISIT TO PREVENCIÓN SOCIAL (SEE
SEPTELS) ON SEPTEMBER 8, DIRECTOR CESAR LECHUGA ROJAS
INFORMED EMBASSY THAT AMCIT PRISONERS ALREADY CONVICTED
OF POSSESSION OF SMALL QUANTITIES OF MARIJUANA OR OTHER
NARCOTICS WOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR EARLY RELEASE.
END SUMMARY.

2. REFERRING TO LETTER DELIVERED TO THE DIRECTOR OF
PREVENCIÓN SOCIAL ON AUGUST 30 REQUESTING A RECONSIDERATION
OF THE CASES OF 14 AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO HAVE RECEIVED
FINAL SENTENCES FOR THE POSSESSION OF ONE HUNDRED GRAMS
OF MARIJUANA OR MINOR QUANTITIES OF COCAINE, CONOFFS
ARTHUR PRICE AND ANTHONY PERKINS ASKED DOCTOR
LECHUGA IF THE GOM WOULD CONSIDER GRANTING THESE PERSONS
AN EARLY RELEASE. THEY RECALLED CONVERSATION HELD BETWEEN
ATTORNEY GENERAL OSCAR FLORES AND UNDER SECRETARY FOR
GOBERNACIÓN LICENCIADO RODOLFO ECHEVERRÍA RUIZ HELD IN
JUNE IN WHICH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL URGED THE UNDER
SECRETARY TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF REVIEWING THE
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CASE OF PRISONERS ALREADY SENTENCED FOR LESS THAN ONE
HUNDRED GRAMS OF MARIJUANA FOR THE PURPOSE OF RELEASING
THOSE PERSONS WHOSE CASES INVOLVED SIMPLE POSSESSION OF
DRUGS.

3. DOCTOR LECHUGA REMEMBERED CONVERSATION, AND SAID HE
HAD STUDIED THE EMBASSY'S LETTER AND ATTACHED LIST WITH

CARE. AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION, HE SAID GOM HAD DECIDED THAT EARLY RELEASE WOULD NOT BE GRANTED TO PERSONS CONVICTED FOR POSSESSION OF SMALL QUANTITIES OF DRUGS WHO HAD ALREADY EXHAUSTED ALL THEIR APPEALS AND ARE NO LONGER SUBJECT TO AN ORDER BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO DROP CHARGES IN THEIR CASE.

4. DOCTOR LECHUGA'S REFUSAL TO ENTERTAIN REVIEW OF THOSE CASES OF PERSONS ALREADY SENTENCED FOR POSSESSION OF SMALL QUANTITIES OF DRUGS HAD OBVIOUSLY ALREADY BEEN CLEARED AT HIGHER LEVELS AND WOULD APPEAR TO CONSTITUTE A DEFINITIVE GOM DECISION ON THIS MATTER. LUCEY

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